

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein an inner section of the blade in the radial direction has no cutting edge and is formed as a disk.

Claims 4-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein at least an outermost cutting edge (22) in a radial direction is aligned essentially parallel to the ground in the operating position.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the base plate (19) is substantially flat and parallel to the rotational plane of the blade.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the base plate (19) extends from a front to approximately a middle of the blade housing.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the base plate has at least one outer recess (27) in a region providing an inlet to the blade.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the blade housing has a lateral discharge opening (24) for the cutting material and the base plate (19) at least partially extends under the discharge opening.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the blade housing has an open back relative to a direction of travel.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A mower comprising a blade housing (11), in which a blade (12) rotates about a vertical rotational axis (13) in a rotational plane, which, in an operating position, is essentially parallel to a ground surface, so that for movement of the mower in a mowing direction (17), cutting material is cut from the ground surface corresponding to a diameter of the blade, a front region (18) of the blade housing in the mowing direction (17) is partially covered by a base plate (19), which runs between the blade and the ground surface, and the blade has in a radial direction at least two cutting edge regions (20, 21, 22) with different cutting heights that each extend beyond the base plate (19) for cutting the cutting material from the ground surface.

Claim 15 (original): A mower according to claim 14, wherein a cutting height of the cutting edge regions (20, 21, 22) decreases in steps at least in sections from inside to outside in the radial direction.

Claim 16 (original): A mower according to claim 15, wherein at least one cutting edge region (21) of the blade (12) extends diagonally downwards and outward in the radial direction.

Claim 17 (original): A mower according to claim 16, wherein, in the operating position, the at least one cutting edge region extends at an angle between 15° and 45° inclined to the ground surface.

Claim 18 (original): A mower according to claim 14, wherein at least one cutting edge region (21) of the blade (12) extends diagonally downwards and outward in the radial direction.

Claim 19 (original): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the blade has a stepped profile at least in sections in the radial direction, such that an inner cutting edge region (20) with reference to the rotational axis is provided with a higher cutting height, and an outer cutting edge region (22) is provided with a lower cutting height.

Claim 20 (original): A mower according to claim 14, wherein the base plate (19') is shaped similar to a radial profile of the blade.

Claim 21 (new): A mower, comprising:

a wheeled blade housing having wheels driven by an engine or motor; and

a blade which rotates about a vertical rotational axis within said housing so

that, for movement of the mower in a mowing direction, cutting

material is cut from the ground surface corresponding to a diameter of

said blade;

said blade housing having a front region in a mowing direction partially

covered by a base plate that runs directly between said blade and the

ground surface; and

said blade having in a radial direction at least two cutting edge regions (20, 21,

22) at different cutting heights that each extend beyond said base plate

for cutting the cutting material from the ground surface.